

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A process for continuous preparation of mixtures from at least two components, comprising the steps of:

- a) charging at least two individual components to storage vessels,
- b) introducing each individual component by way of a conveying device for each component into a mixing device, each conveying device having a conveying rate
- c) varying the conveying rate of at least one of the conveying devices in such a way that the conveying rate thereof varies periodically corresponding to a periodic function varying between a lower and an upper limiting value and whose periods are constant over time, and
- d) mixing the individual components in the mixing device.

Claim 2 (previously presented): The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the variation of the conveying rate of one of the conveying devices continuously rises or falls, and wherein the variation in the conveying rate of all of the other conveying devices is periodic.

Claim 3 (withdrawn): The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the variation of the conveying rate of various conveying devices is periodic and wherein the frequencies of the variations differ from one another.

Claim 4 (withdrawn): The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the variation of the conveying rate of at least one conveying device corresponds to a sawtooth function or a sine function.

Claim 5 (withdrawn): The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the variation of the conveying rate of at least one conveying device corresponds to a periodic step function whose periods and step intervals are constant over time.

Claim 6 (withdrawn): The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the periods or step intervals for the variation of the conveying rates of the individual conveying devices are an integral multiple of a base period, where the ratio of any two desired periods or step intervals for the variation of the conveying rate of the conveying devices, or the ratio of a period and a step interval for the variation of the conveying rate of two conveying devices, is equal to half of a whole number.

Claim 7 (previously presented): The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein a frequency ratio of two periodic variations of the conveying rate of two conveying devices is proportional to a given compositional resolution.

Claim 8 (original): The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the total conveying rate of all of the conveying devices is constant over time.

Claim 9 (previously presented): The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one component is selected from the group consisting of a liquid, a conveyable solid, and a gas.

Claim 10 (original): The process as claimed in claim 9, wherein at least one component is a polymer melt, and wherein at least one other component is an additive.

Claim 11 (withdrawn): An apparatus for carrying out the process as claimed in claim 1, encompassing the following units:

- i) storage vessels for each individual component of the mixture to be prepared,
- ii) mixing device for mixing all of the components of the mixture to be prepared;
- iii) lines for the individual components, leading from each individual storage vessel to the mixing device;
- iv) in every line for every individual component, conveying devices whose conveying rate can be set individually; and
- v) control device for the conveying devices, which controls the conveying rate of each conveying device independently of the others, and which sets the conveying rate of at least one conveying device variably and periodically between a predetermined lower limiting value and a predetermined upper limiting value.

Claim 12 (withdrawn): The apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein the mixing device is a static mixer.

Claim 13 (withdrawn): The apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein the mixing device is a screw extruder.

Claims 14-16 (cancelled)

Claim 17 (withdrawn): A method of producing substance libraries for high-throughput screening and other combinatorial methods which comprises.

Claim 18 (withdrawn): A molding produced by the process of claim 1.

Claim 19 (withdrawn): The molding as claimed in claim 18, wherein the molding is in the form of film strips, extrudates, or pellets.

Claim 20 (withdrawn): The molding as claimed in claim 18, wherein the molding is an extrudate or an unsupported film strip, from which discrete fractions are produced by chopping or stamping, or by pelletizing.

Claim 21 (withdrawn): The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the variation of the conveying rate of all of the periodic variations corresponds to a sawtooth function or a sine function, the periods thereof being constant over time.

Claim 22 (withdrawn): The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the periods or step intervals for the variation of the conveying rates of the individual conveying devices are

an integral multiple of a base period, where the ratio of any two desired periods or step intervals for the variation of the conveying rate of the conveying devices, or the ratio of a period and a step interval for the variation of the conveying rate of two conveying devices, is 0.5, 1.5, or 2.5.